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(b) All the five candidates were qualified for the post.

(c) Dr. D. K. Menon, L.D.SC. (Bom.), who has registered his name in Part A of the Dentists' Register, was selected and appointed to the post. As he later declined to take up the appointment, Dr. N. S. Balachandran, the next best candidate, was appointed to the post.

Civil Supplies retrenched staff

* 3161 Q.—SRI P. KUNHIRAMA KIDAV : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of lower and upper division clerks, peons and masalchis of the Civil Supplies Department absorbed in the Rent Courts in Malabar; and

(b) whether there are any new appointees other than the Civil Supplies retrenched staff in the Rent Courts in Malabar?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :

(a)	Lower Division clerks	3
	Upper Division clerks	Nil.
	Peons	27
	Masalchis	Nil.
	Piece-worker Copyist	1

(b) Yes, Sir.

SRI P. KUNHIRAMA KIDAV : May I know, Sir, whether the Government have received any complaint from the Civil Supplies retrenched staff that they are not getting preference in the Rent Courts in the matter of employment and on this, what action has been taken so far?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Sir, all retrenched people that were available were taken in. But, new applicants were also taken because these retrenched people were not available through the sub-regional employment exchange.

Irrigation dams

9–30 a.m. * 3162 Q.—SRI C. KUNHIRAMA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether any action has been taken to set up a committee of local agriculturists to consider ways and means to repair the Ayinikad Dam in Kurumbranad taluk, North Malabar, as stated by him in his recent communication on the subject?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : There is no defect in the structural design and functioning of the Ayinikad Dam and hence, the question of considering the ways and means to repair the dam does not arise; but the formation of a committee of representative local ryots was considered only to look after the proper regulation and working of the dam. The